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RAIL RATE FIGHT

It Involves Some New and Peculiar Questions Which Puzzle Both State and National Government

According to a dispatch to the Chicago Tribune from Washington it appears not unlikely that the Department of Justice will avert the impending clash between the state government of Illinois and Federal Judge Dyer of St. Louis over the action of the railroads in increasing Illinois passenger fares to 2.4 cents a mile in compliance with the court order, but in contravention of the Illinois two-cent fare law.

Attorney General Gregory is impressed with the serious possibilities of the situation and has asked Assistant Attorney General Wilkerson of Illinois and Col. George T. Buckingham, counsel for the Illinois public utility commission, to remain in Washington for another conference. Assistant Attorney General Underwood said he hoped to be able to present a peace plan.

Mr. Wilkerson and Col. Buckingham are standing pat on their declaration that unless the rate advance be withdrawn or suspended the Illinois authorities will proceed to arrest the agents of the railroads in every county in the state.

Mr. Wilkerson declared untrue the statement that the Interstate Commerce Commission authorized a rate of 2.4 cents. He said the commission merely ordered the railroads to remove the discrimination against St. Louis without indicating how it should be done.

The railroads, Mr. Wilkerson said, should have reduced the St. Louis rate instead of raising all Illinois passenger rates to the level of the St. Louis rate.

Gov. Lowden's letter to United States Senators Sherman and Lewis expressing the position of the state of Illinois and urging that they present the case to the United States Attorney General, was made public today. In part, the governor's letter says:

"This clash between state and Federal authority, in which the state laws can be asserted only by arrest of railroad officials in Illinois, resulting in the counter arrest of the state authorities in the St. Louis Federal court, is something which should not be permitted, if it is possible to avoid it."

"The state authorities have no option in the matter. Their right and duty to uphold the state law has been vindicated in every court, both state and Federal, in which they have been heard."

"At this time when every effort is being made to unite the forces of the nation and of the states for the performance of the great task before the nation, some way can and must be found to avoid this conflict."

"The Interstate Commerce Commission held the case under advisement for more than a year before it was decided. Since the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission, almost another year elapsed before steps were taken to enforce the order as to discrimination against St. Louis. Certainly, no serious harm can come from permitting the situation to remain in its present status until the pending case in the Supreme Court is decided."

"The Attorney General of the United States has final authority over these proceedings. I am satisfied that he

does not understand the serious nature of the situation. I believe that if the matter were presented to him in its proper light he would see that steps are taken in the St. Louis suit to preserve the existing status until the decision of the Supreme Court is made."

DOCTORS FOR EXEMPT BOARDS

Physicians as medical members of the eighty-four war exemption boards in Chicago will be selected by lot and not by politics, if the plan formulated by Dr. Augustus O'Neill, president of the Chicago Medical Society, and Dr. C. St. Clair Drake, secretary of the state board of health, is approved by Governor Lowden.

Names of 300 local physicians

NEW WEST PARK OFFICIALS

Officers were elected by the newly appointed commissioners of the West Chicago Park Board at their first meeting in the board rooms in Union Park, Tuesday. John P. Smulski was chosen president, William Ganshow treasurer, Richard J. Powers auditor, and Isaac Shapiro secretary.

The other commissioners are John C. Hanson, John I. Bagdzianas, and William F. Grower. The latter was the only member of the old board retained by Gov. Lowden.

The first official act of the new board was to reject bids aggregating \$400,000 for a pavilion in Columbus Park. Another was the adoption of a resolution praising Judge Hugh Kearns of the Automobile Court for his efforts to check speeding on the west park boulevards.

LARSON MADE BUSINESS MANAGER

Lewis E. Larson, secretary of the Board of Education, was elected by the school board's special committee for the new position of business manager. It is expected the committee's recommendation will be approved today. The salary is to be \$10,000, although that question may come up again in caucus before the meeting. Mr. Larson is not to be permitted to retain the position of secretary if he accepts that of business manager. He

BRUNDAGE SAVES

Attorney General of Illinois Runs His Office More Economically Than Any of His Predecessors

Attorney General Brundage is running his office more economically than any of his predecessors.

At the urgent request of Governor Lowden administration leaders in the legislature made a final effort to cut down appropriations.

Two million dollars was trimmed off the state aid road appropriation bill, and \$150,000 from the omnibus bill.

These reductions made it appear probable that the total appropriations of the sessions would be about \$50,000,000 instead of more than \$72,000,000, as seemed probable a few days ago. The total two years ago was about \$47,200,000.

The omnibus bill was advanced to third reading in the house after Democrats made unsuccessful attacks upon a number of items. More than sev-

are in addition to the \$60,000,000 bond issue which will be available for roads if approved by the voters in November, 1918.

The house passed about forty bills during the day, most of them appropriation measures. Among them was the state officers salary bill totalling more than \$3,000,000, the University of Illinois bill carrying \$4,800,000, a bill to provide funds for the completion of armories, including \$150,000 for the First Cavalry at Chicago and \$10,000 for the Second Infantry at Chicago, and the state tax levy bill providing for the raising of \$1,000,000 during the next two years by general taxation.

The senate passed without opposition Senator Howitt's bill to appropriate \$1,000,000 to make the Big Muddy River navigable to the Mississippi to provide water transportation to the coal fields of southern Illinois.

A bill to raise the salary of Adjutant General Frank S. Dickson from \$5,000 to \$7,000 and his chief assistant and quartermaster general from \$3,500 to \$4,000, was introduced in the sen-

ate by Senator Curtis and advanced to second reading.

FOR REPUBLICAN HARMONY

A Springfield dispatch says: With a view of launching an organization to serve as a peacekeeper between various Republican factions in state politics a number of legislators and executive employees formed the Illinois Republican Harmony League.

Republican members of the general assembly and several state officers were guests of the league at a banquet. Lieut. Gov. Oglesby, Secretary of State Emerson, Attorney General Brundage, and Speaker Shanahan of the house were among the speakers.

Senator J. G. Bardill of Highland was chosen president; Representative J. M. Pace of Macomb, vice president; B. H. McCann of Bloomington, treasurer; and Charles W. Baldwin of Chicago, secretary. Five vice presidents will be elected from Cook county and one from each downstate county.

IN THE CITY COUNCIL

Important Public Business Before the Chicago Board of Aldermen

The City Council, at its regular meeting on Monday, adopted an address to the people of Chicago.

The address, after referring to the existence of a state of war, says in part:

"This condition, so recognized and proclaimed, ipso facto silences all discussion and criticism of the declaration of war and calls upon all the citizens of the United States to espouse the cause of our common country by word and deed."

"The true, loyal citizen will not, in time of war, debate the righteousness of his country's cause, and the disloyal, if there be such, shall not be heard. Free expression of disloyal sentiment is 'giving aid and comfort to the enemy in time of war' and is fraught with evil."

The council voted unanimously in favor of abolishing free lunch in saloons by passing an ordinance providing a penalty of a fine not less than \$5 or more than \$100 for saloonkeepers who give food with drinks. Free lunch is described in the ordinance, which was drafted by the health committee, as a "public nuisance."

Among other things, the council voted to buy not to exceed \$2,000,000 worth of liberty bonds with city funds.

Made consideration of mayor's school board appointees special order of business at next meeting.

Accepted challenge to play baseball with Milwaukee City Council in Milwaukee for benefit of Red Cross on June 30.

Voted to inspect Calumet Lake harbor project in body on June 23.

Re-referred to finance committee proposal to decrease discount for prompt payment of water bills from 25 to 10 per cent.

The Americanization celebration committee's plans for a community sane Fourth of July celebration were approved.

The City Council schools committee on Tuesday resumed its investigation of the qualifications of Mayor Thompson's school board appointees.

Other phases of the row between the mayor and Jacob M. Loeb, president of the Board of Education, also will be inquired into.

The mayor and Fred Lundin, characterized by Mr. Loeb as the plotters against the school system, have been invited to attend. Members of the committee, however, are doubtful whether they will appear. The mayor refused yesterday to say whether he would go before the aldermen.

He took occasion, however, to call Loeb a "liar" during the day.

"Jake Loeb stands a discredited man in this community," he exclaimed angrily. "Very few people believe him any more. I am not going to sit in on any controversy with a man who is a liar."

"I am interested in the welfare of the schools. According to information given me, Jake Loeb stands in this community as a dishonest ingrate. I don't care to discuss Mr. Loeb or his diary. As far as I am concerned, I am through with him. He is dishonest and a marked man."

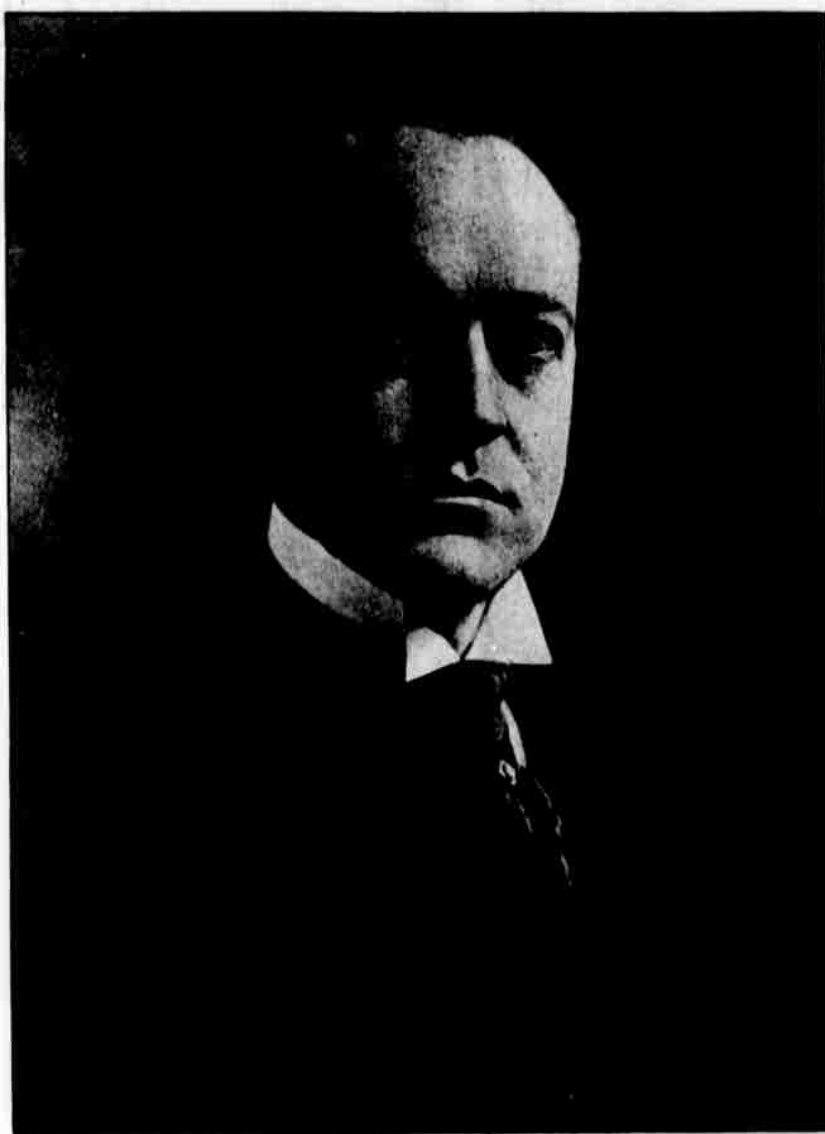
"Mr. Loeb said he would resign provided you appointed a new school board which would be suitable to him," the mayor was told.

"Mr. Loeb has not enough manhood in him to resign," he retorted.

Mr. Loeb declined to make a reply, but said he might have something to say at today's meeting.

Mrs. Ella Flagg Young and Edwin G. Cooley, both former superintendents of schools, will be asked their views on the qualifications they believe should be possessed by the superintendent. That was one decision reached by the committee of the Board of Education appointed to recommend the best equipped person to be found for the position. Trustee Harris W. Huehl is chairman.

A questionnaire will be prepared and mailed to the superintendents of schools in fifty of the largest cities in the country outside of Chicago; to twenty superintendents of high grade normal schools; to twenty university presidents, and to a few other educators, including Mrs. Young and Mr. Cooley.



EDWARD J. BRUNDAGE,
The Popular Attorney General of Illinois.

picked because of their high standing in the medical profession were forwarded to Governor Lowden in Springfield by Dr. O'Neill and Dr. Drake. Out of this number will be drawn the names of 100 physicians who will be recommended to the Federal government for exemption board appointments.

Those selected will serve without compensation, according to Dr. O'Neill. Physicians whose names were in the list submitted to the chief state executive are not at present connected with any of the Federal fighting units.

SCHUETTLER'S THIRTY-FOURTH

Chief Schuetzler celebrated his thirty-fourth year as a member of the police department Wednesday.

He was 21 years old when he joined and was assigned to the Chicago avenue station.

"I feel just as good today as I did the day I joined the department, but I am a little prouder," the chief said.

has been handling both jobs for several years.

The decision of the committee came after a stormy session. Ralph C. Otis, the chairman, and Charles S. Peterson held out for Mr. Larson so strenuously that Joseph A. Holpuch and Michael J. Collins gave in. Ernest J. Krueger was concerned.

Mr. Holpuch and Mr. Collins urged that business men in the city be consulted in filling the place.

CITY GIVES DANCES

An elaborate program for dances at the Municipal Pier this summer was approved by the city harbor board. The board approved the award of the dancing concession to Paul W. Cooper, 1701 West Van Buren street, who will pay the city 15 per cent of the first \$1,000 received each week and 50 per cent of receipts above that amount.

The first dance will be held Saturday, June 30.

A charge of five cents a couple for each dance will be made.

enty-five amendments were acted upon.

The omnibus bill was reduced from about \$19,350,000 to about \$19,200,000. Attorney General Brundage cut \$50,000 from the amount requested for his department and an item of \$100,000 for vaults to store state records also was stricken out.

Representative Devine, a Democrat, sought vainly to have an inheritance tax investigation allowance for the attorney cut from \$50,000 to \$15,000, and to prevent the chief clerk in the office of the Secretary of State from obtaining an increase in salary from \$3,600 to \$6,000.

Representative Donahue, a Democrat, was voted down in an attempt to add an appropriation of \$30,000 to equip the woman's dormitory at the state normal university at Normal.

The house passed a bill appropriating \$1,326,000 for Federal postroads, the national government to appropriate an equal sum. The bill appropriating balances for roads authorized by the last general assembly was reduced by amendments from \$1,245,426.97 to \$1,173,979.07. These amounts

The house passed Senator Gorman's bill providing for the nomination of the candidates for the Cook county Superior Court by party conventions.

The senate acted favorably upon Representative Burns' measure providing that the full text of city ordinances need not be printed when submitted to popular vote on the "little" ballot.

Two military bills that have passed the senate were given favorable house consideration and advanced toward passage. They were Senator Buck's bill creating a reserve state militia and the measure of Senator Cliffe providing pay of \$1 a day for soldiers while in state service.

Governor Lowden vetoed the Turnbaugh-Benson bill prohibiting high school fraternities and sororities. The governor has not signed the Chicago pension measures or the bill abolishing capital punishment for murder. The governor also vetoed Senator McCullough's bill providing that all bridges be painted white.

The senate passed Senator Glackin's bill regulating the storage of food. Senator Buck's bill appropriating \$12,000 for the completion of the Monmouth armory was passed by the senate.

Representative Kirby's measure limiting the height of shoe heels to one and three-eighths inches passed by the house by the narrow margin of one vote. It now is before the senate for action.

The house concurred in the conference report on the \$60,000,000 hard roads bond issue bill and it went to the governor for signature. The proposition is to be voted upon by the people at the general election in 1918.

After a sharp attack the boxing bill, which has been passed by the house, was advanced to third reading in the senate on Wednesday. A lively fight is promised when the measure is called up for passage.

Senator Dunlap's bill compelling all males between the ages of 16 and 60 to be employed during the period of the war was passed by the senate. The author of the bill says the legislation is aimed at slackers.

Representative Thomason's measure regulating commission merchants was passed in the house. It provides for the licensing of commission men and compels an accounting for consignments of produce. Mr. Thomason worked hard to secure the passage of

a similar bill last session but it was defeated.

Representative Fieldstack's bill prohibiting the use of basements by employees who work with poisonous acids, got favorable house action. Representative Young's bill, providing for the sale of 58 acres of submerged land on the lake shore near the mouth of the Calumet River to the Irons Iron Company was passed by the house. Price was fixed at \$200 an acre.

Representative Lyle's measure providing that the filing of an injunction suit shall not prevent public officials from paying salaries to public employees was passed by the house and advanced to second reading in the senate without reference.

The senate committee which is making an inquiry into the cause of the death of Maxwell Edgar at the Elgin Hospital for the Insane will hold a final conference at Chicago on Monday to agree upon a report to be made to the senate next week.

Efforts to pass the state moving picture censorship bill introduced by Representative Guernsey failed in the house on Tuesday when it was called up for passage. It received 65 affirmative votes, twelve fewer than the number required for passage. A second vote was taken Thursday night when the measure was passed, receiving 105 affirmative votes.

Representative Gregory's bill prohibiting the making of campaign pledges was passed by the house on Wednesday. Candidates may announce platform principles and voters are not prohibited from seeking the views of candidates upon matters of public importance under its terms.

The house killed the bill of Senator Barr providing for pensions for judges which had been given an unfavorable report by the judiciary committee. It also killed the bill increasing the salaries of supreme court judges to \$12,000 a year. Representative Scanlan's measure providing for an increase of salary for down-state circuit judges was passed. The salary advance is from \$5,000 to \$7,500 a year. The bill of Senator Cliffe providing pensions for teachers in state institutions was passed by the house.

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